

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6962

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, CG, US, EFIN

SUBJECT: ZAIRE'S ABSORPTIVE CAPACITY FOR NON-AGRICULTURAL
IMPORTS

REF: A) KINSHASA 1676, B) STATE 047243, C) KINSHASA 1797,

D) KINSHASA 2076

1. SUMMARY: EMBASSY HAS CONDUCTED INFORMAL SURVEY OF LEADING U.S. FIRMS, IMPORTERS, AND CERTAIN GOZ AGENCIES AND HAS PREPARED ESTIMATE OF REQUIREMENTS OF GECAMINES. IF ADEQUATE FOREIGN EXCHANGE WERE AVAILABLE THESE ENTITIES ALONE WOULD MAKE IMPORTS FROM U.S. DURING TWELVE MONTH PERIOD VALUED AT \$148.7 MILLION. THIS SURVEY CLEARLY INDICATES THAT ZAIRE HAS ABSORPTIVE CAPACITY FOR FY-77 \$20 MILLION EXIMBANK AND \$80 MILLION SUPPORTING ASSISTANCE LOAN RECOMMENDED BY REF A. END SUMMARY.

2. EMBOFFS QUERIED LEADING U.S. FIRMS AND IMPORTERS RE THEIR REQUIREMENTS FROM U.S. DURING TWELVE MONTH PERIOD IF ADEQUATE FOREIGN EXCHANGE WERE AVAILABLE. RESULTS, EXPRESSED IN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS, FOLLOW:

A. GENERAL MOTORS (UNASSEMBLED VEHICLES)	\$7.5
B. GOODYEAR (RAW MATERIALS)	4.8
C. ESB (RAW MATERIALS)	5.5
D. KALICAK (CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS)	.8
E. AIR ZAIRE (SPARE PARTS)	7.5
F. AFRIMA (ENGINES, CONSTRUCTION MACHINERY, HEAVY EQUIPMENT)	17.5

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G. CHANIMAT (HEAVY EQUIPMENT) .8

H. SODIMAT (HEAVY EQUIPMENT, CONSTRUCTION

MACHINERY) 3.8

I. BLACKWOOD HODGE (DIESEL ENGINES) .4

TOTAL: \$48.6

3. AID REPS CONDUCTED SIMILAR INFORMAL SURVEY OF IMPORT REQUIREMENTS FROM U.S. DURING TWELVE MONTH PERIOD, IF ADEQUATE FOREIGN EXCHANGE WERE AVAILABLE, OF DEPARTMENTS OF AGRICULTURE, TRANSPORTATION, AND ONACER. RESULTS, EXPRESSED IN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS, FOLLOW:

I. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

A. FERTILIZERS 9.0

B. PESTICIDES, HERBICIDES, ETC. 5.7

C. VETERINARY MEDICINES AND PRODUCTS 5.0

D. FX MATERIALS FOR GRAIN AND FERTILIZER DEPOTS .1

E. SEMI-AUTONOMOUS AGENCIES

1. VEHICLES AND TRUCKS 2.8

2. CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT 1.3

3. LOADING EQUIPMENT .3

4. TUGBOATS .1

5. SPARE PARTS

A. VEHICLES AND MOTORS 1.2

B. FACTORY EQUIPMENT 3.2

6. PLANTATION TOOLS .2

F. FORESTRY INDUSTRY

1. VEHICLES AND CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT 1.8

2. POWER SAWS, REPAIR SHOP TOOLS .1

3. RIVER TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT .1

G. MEDIUM-SIZED FARM PROJECT: 650 PRIVATELY-OPERATED CORN FARMS, 180 HECTARES EACH, TO BE ESTABLISHED STARTING IN 1976

1. FERTILIZER 9.0

2. CORN HARVESTERS 4.5

3. TRACTORS .2

4. FARM EQUIPMENT 1.1

5. TRUCKS 4.0

H. COTTON INDUSTRY: SPARE PARTS FOR MILLS,

EQUIPMENT AND VEHICLES 2.5

TOTAL: DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE \$52.2

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II. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

A. ONATRA

1. SPARE PARTS AND TOOLS .8

2. TRUCKS .5

3. DOCKHANDLING EQUIPMENT .5

B. REGIE DES VOIES FLUVIALES

1. BUOYS .4

2. BOATS (4)	.6
3. BUOY TENDER	.4
4. SHOP AND MEASURING EQUIPMENT	.2
C. OFFICE DES ROUTES	
1. SPARE PARTS	.5
2. CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT	1.5
TOTAL: DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION \$5.4	

III. ONACER

A. TRUCKS	1.7
B. GRAIN SACKS	.7
C. SCALES AND FUMIGATION EQUIPMENT	.1
TOTAL: ONACER \$2.5	
TOTAL: PUBLIC SECTOR \$60.1	

4. EMBASSY ESTIMATES TOTAL GECAMINES IMPORTS IN 1975 AS \$96 MILLION, AND ITS 1976 IMPORT REQUIREMENTS AS \$110 MILLION. WE ESTIMATE THAT AT LEAST \$40 MILLION OF THESE IMPORT REQUIREMENTS WOULD BE MADE FROM U.S. SOURCES IF ADEQUATE FOREIGN EXCHANGE WERE AVAILABLE.

5. ABOVE ESTIMATES PROBABLY INVOLVE SMALL DEGREE OF DOUBLE COUNTING, I.E. SODIMAT AND AFRIMA PROBABLY INTEND TO SELL AT LEAST A PORTION OF THEIR IMPORTS TO GECAMINES. HOWEVER, AS ABOVE IMPORT REQUIREMENTS OF ABOVE ENTITIES ALONE TOTAL \$148.7 MILLION, ZAIRE'S ABSORPTIVE CAPACITY FOR PROPOSED FY-77 \$20 MILLION EXIMBANK LOAN AND \$80 MILLION SUPPORTING ASSISTANCE LOAN IN FY77 IS CLEARLY DEMONSTRATED.

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